

COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

25X1 TOPIC Volkspolizei Dienststelle in Frankenberg 25X1

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DATE PREPARED 26 March 1952

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. The reorganization of Volkspolizei Dienststelle (VPD) 25X1 in Frankenberg began on 10 January 1952. Some of the Sonderabteilungen were integrated with the Kommandos which were to be independent tactical units. *

2. On 22 February, the 7th Sonderabteilung (Armd) had about 120 men and was organized into the headquarters, 3 companies of 3 platoons each, 1 reconnaissance platoon with armored reconnaissance cars and motorcycles, 1 SP artillery Abteilung of 30 men, and 1 maintenance squad. Each company had 3 platoons, with 1 officer and 15 to 20 police, and had an authorized equipment of 9 tanks. **

3. The following officers, whose first names were unknown, of VPD

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VF Inspekteur Rentsch	Commanding officer.
VF Kommandeur Elschner	Deputy commander and PK chief.
VF Kommandeur Mende	Head of the party control commission.
VF Rat Braeutigam	SED secretary.
VF Oberrat Fiedler	Chief of staff, successor to VP Kommandeur Wildner (fnu), who was transferred to an unknown place.
VF Kommandeur Schmuesser	Director of training.
VF Kommandeur Brenner	Chief instructor of armored training.

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VP Kommandeur Adschimov

Sovietnik and advisor regarding armored training.

VP Rat Schrappe

Supply officer.

VP Rat Hoffmann

Commanding officer of the 7th Sonderabteilung.

- 25X1 4. [] the unit was to conduct tank record firing, probably in the area between Frankenberg and Freiberg, in 1952. The Soviet tank training area near Chemnitz-Ebersdorf was also at the disposal of the unit.

25X1 * [] Comment. The present and previous reports allow no definite conclusion as to whether the Kommandos, after their reorganization, are cadre units for regiments or battalions.

25X1 ** [] Comment. The personnel strength of the 7th Sonderabteilung of 120 men remained the same as prior to the reorganization, whereas the organizational structure has changed essentially. Another report stated that elements of the 1st Sonderabteilung (Icn) were integrated into the infantry Kommandos or infantry Abteilungen. [] The following conclusions can be drawn from a comparison of the reference report with the present report: first, the 1st Sonderabteilung (Icn) detached elements to the infantry Kommandos; second, two independent Gruppen were formed from the tank and SP guns previously belonging to the 7th Sonderabteilungen; and third, all armored components of the VPB were merged into a mixed Abteilung of cadre status which, in essence, consists of an armored Abteilung, the remainder of the reconnaissance Abteilung and an SP artillery unit. This merger may have been effected to facilitate training.

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